

Water Recreation Facilities

Chapter 246-260

Washington Administrative Code

**Rules and Regulations of the
Washington State Board of Health**

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Environmental Health and Safety

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**CHAPTER 246-260 WAC
WATER RECREATION FACILITIES**

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APPENDICES

WAC 246-260-001 Purpose and Authority

- (1) The purpose of this chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of users of water recreation facilities
- (2) This chapter does not apply to:
 - (a) Any water recreation facility for the sole use of residents and invited guests at a single-family dwelling.
 - (b) Therapeutic water facilities operated exclusively for physical therapy or rehabilitation under the supervision of a licensed medical practitioner; and
 - (c) Steam baths and saunas.
- (3) Requirements for recreational water contact facilities, including water slides, speed slides and wave pools are contained in chapter 246-262 WAC.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), re-codified as 246-260-001, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-003, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90).

WAC 246-260-010 Definitions

- (1) "Abbreviations" (technical):
 - (a) "CPR" means cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
 - (b) "DE" means diatomaceous earth;
 - (c) "F" means Fahrenheit;
 - (d) "Fps" means feet per second;
 - (e) "Gpm" means gallons per minute;
 - (f) "Mg/l" means milligrams per liter. When requirements in this regulation specify limits for liquid volume measurements using mg/l or PPM, either may be used depending on the type of testing equipment available;
 - (g) "PPM" means parts per million. See notation under mg/l for use;
 - (h) "TU" means turbidity unit as measured by the nephelometric method.
- (2) Acronyms:
 - (a) "ALTI" means Advanced Lifeguard Training International;
 - (b) "ANSI" means American National Standards Institute;
 - (c) "APHA" means American Public Health Association;
 - (d) "ARC" means American Red Cross;
 - (e) "ASA" means American Standards Association;
 - (f) "ASHRAE" means American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers;
 - (g) "ASTM" means American Society for Testing and Materials;
 - (h) "AWWA" means American Waterworks Association;
 - (i) "E&A" means Ellis and Associates;
 - (j) "CPSC" means U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission;
 - (k) "EPA" means U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;

- (l) "FINA" means Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur;
 - (m) "IAPMO" means International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials;
 - (n) "NSF" means National Sanitation Foundation;
 - (o) "NSPI" means National Spa and Pool Institute;
 - (p) "PADI" means Professional Association of Diving Instructors"
 - (q) "UBC" means Uniform Building Code;
 - (r) "UL" means Underwriters' Laboratories;
 - (s) "WRF": means water recreation facility;
 - (t) "WRPA" means Washington Recreation and Parks Association;
 - (u) "WSDA" means Washington State Department of Agriculture; and
 - (v) "YMCA" means Young Men's Christian Association.
- (3) "Approved" means the department or local health officer has stated in writing that the design plans and specifications are in accordance with this chapter.
 - (4) "Architect" means a registered architect currently licensed under chapter 18.08 RCW.
 - (5) "Attendant" means a person appointed by the owner or manager meeting the training requirements of this chapter who monitors activities and conditions for the purpose of ensuring bather safety.
 - (6) "Bathing beach" means a bathing place, together with associated buildings and appurtenances, on a natural pond, lake, stream, or other body of fresh or salt water that is open to the public for bathing by express permission of the owner, operated for a fee, or openly advertised as a place for bathing by the public.
 - (7) "Board" means the State Board of Health.
 - (8) "Communication system" means any combination of devices permitting the passage of or exchange of messages between personnel and/or personnel and bathers. Systems can include but are not limited to two-way radios, hard wired intercoms, horns, whistles, hand signals, direct voice, signs, or equivalent.
 - (9) "Contaminant" means any physical, chemical, or biological substance present in the WRF water, which may adversely affect the health or safety of the bather or the quality of the water.
 - (10) "Cross-connection" means any physical arrangement connecting:
 - (a) Potable water system directly or indirectly, with anything other than another potable water system; or
 - (b) WRF pool to any water source capable of contaminating the WRF pool, its components, or potable water source as a result of backflow.
 - (11) "Department" means the Washington State Department of Health.
 - (12) "Diving envelope" means the minimum dimensions of an area within the pool necessary to provide entry from a diving board, platform, or pool decking intended for users to dive.
 - (13) "Engineer" means a registered professional engineer currently licensed under chapter 18.43 RCW.
 - (14) "General use pool" means any swimming, spa, wading, or spray pool regulated by this chapter not meeting the definition of a "limited use pool".
 - (15) "Handhold" means a structure not over twelve inches above the water line around the perimeter of the pool wall, affording physical means for the bather to grasp the pool sides.
 - (16) "Illness or injury report" means the written record of all facts regarding an injury or illness associated with the WRF.

- (17) "Innovative Design Feature" means a design feature, equipment, device, or operative procedure not specifically covered by these rules or chapter 246-262 WAC.
- (18) "Licensed Medical Practitioner" includes licensed medical doctor, osteopath, chiropractor, naturopath, medical therapist.
- (19) "Lifeguard" means a person meeting the training requirements of these rules appointed by the owner or manager to maintain surveillance over the bathers on the deck or in the pool and to supervise bather safety.
- (20) "Lifeguard station" means the designated workstation of a lifeguard.
- (21) "Lifesaving equipment" means emergency equipment and barrier protection.
- (22) "Lifesaving Society" means the organization in Canada that establishes training requirements and standards for Lifeguard training.
- (23) "Limited use pool" means any swimming, spa, wading, or spray pool regulated by this chapter at an apartment, boarding home, condominium, home owners association, motel, hotel, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or rental housing unit for the use of the persons living or residing at the facility and their resident's-invited guests. When organized programs are provided at the facility (including, but not limited to, formal swimming or diving lessons, swim meets, or exercise classes), planned for users besides those specified under the limited use category, the pool facility shall be considered to be a general use pool during periods of such activity.
- (24) "Local health officer" means the health officer of the city, county, or city-county department or district or a representative authorized by the local health officer.
- (25) "Owner" means a person owning and responsible for a WRF or their authorized agent.
- (26) "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, company, association, club, government entity, or organization of any kind.
- (27) "Pool" means swimming pool, wading pool, spray pool, or spa pool or the like.
- (28) "Radius of curvature" means the radius arc denoting the curved surface from the point of departure from the springline (vertical sidewall) of the pool to the pool bottom.
- (29) "Response time" means time between bather distress and initiation of rescue assistance contact by a lifeguard in facilities providing lifeguards.
- (30) "Recreational water contact facility" means an artificial water associated facility with design and operational features that provide patron recreational activity which is different from that associated with a conventional swimming pool, and purposefully involves immersion of the body partially or totally in the water, and that includes but is not limited to water slides, wave pools and water lagoons. These facilities are regulated by chapter 246-262 WAC.
- (31) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Health.
- (32) "Serious injury" means any injury:
 - (a) Requiring emergency service response where a person requires medical treatment as determined by the emergency medical response personnel; or
 - (b) Resulting in a person seeking medical attention at the medical facility, hospital emergency room or admittance to a hospital.
- (33) "Shallow water lifeguard" means a person appointed by the owner or manager to supervise bather safety in water depths not exceeding four and one half feet who meets the training requirements of this chapter.
- (34) "Spa pool" means a pool designed for relaxation or recreational use where the user is usually sitting, reclining, or at rest and the pool is not drained, cleaned, and refilled for each

user. The spa pool may include, but not be limited to, hydrojet circulation, hot water, cold water, mineral baths, or air induction bubbles in any combination.

- (35) "Spray pool" means a pool or artificially constructed depression for use by bathers in which water is sprayed, but is not allowed to pond, in the bottom of the pool.
- (36) "Springline" means the point where the pool wall breaks from vertical and begins its arc in the radius of curvature (for cove construction) to the bottom of the pool.
- (37) "Swimming pool" means any structure, basin, chamber, or tank containing an artificial body of water for swimming, diving, relaxation, or recreational bathing and having a depth of two feet or more at any point and including all associated facilities.
- (38) "Swim Spa" means a type of spa pool used primarily for stationary swimming.
- (39) "Turnover time" means the minimum time necessary to circulate the entire volume of the pool facility through the treatment system.
- (40) "Wading pool" means any artificial pool of water equal to or less than two feet deep and intended for wading purposes.
- (41) "Walking surface" means any surface used as a direct access surface for a pool, as well as the area between a pool and any locker, restroom, shower or change room facilities where the user is barefoot.
- (42) "Water recreation facility (WRF)" means any artificial basin or other structure containing water used or intended to be used for recreation, bathing, relaxation or swimming, where body contact with the water occurs or is intended to occur. It includes auxiliary buildings and appurtenances. The terms includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Conventional swimming pools, wading pools, and spray pools;
 - (b) Recreational water contact facilities;
 - (c) Spa pool and tubs using hot water, cold water, mineral water, air induction, or hydrojets.
- (43) "Water treatment operator" means a person appointed by the owner or manager to operate the physical and mechanical equipment and perform-related water quality monitoring and associated record keeping for proper operation of the physical facility.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (order 226B), 246-260-010, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.
Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-010, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-001, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation .98.001, effective 3/11/60).

POOL DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-260-021 Construction Permit

- (1) Persons planning to construct, alter, or modify a WRF pool, except for routine maintenance, must submit an application for a construction permit to the department or local health officer for review and approval. Routine maintenance includes replacing like for like and other changes having no potentially negative hydraulic, sanitation, or safety impacts on the WRF. Persons planning routine maintenance resulting in the replacement of WRF equipment or surfaces must submit a description of the intended maintenance to the

- department or local health officer prior to initiating the maintenance. The department or local health officer will determine if additional written information is needed for their concurrence prior to proceeding with the proposed construction, alteration or modification.
- (2) Plans and specifications accompanying a construction permit application must be prepared and signed by an engineer or architect.
 - (3) Plans must be drawn to scale and in sufficient detail to completely illustrate construction is in compliance with this chapter. This must include:
 - (a) One plan view;
 - (b) One or more cross-sections through the main drain;
 - (c) Overall plan showing the pool in relation to other facilities in the area;
 - (d) Detailed view of the equipment layout and the associated room or location;
 - (e) A piping schematic showing piping configuration, pipe size, valves, inlets, main drains, over flow outlets, make-up water, and backwash from the filter;
 - (f) Dimensional drawings of pool bottom and sidewalls;
 - (g) Specifications of all required components;
 - (h) Such other department or local health officer-required information.
 - (4) Only complete application and plans as determined by the department or local health officer may be considered for permit approval or denial.
 - (5) Owners submitting a construction permit application proposing a WRF that incorporates innovative design features not specifically covered by these regulations or Chapter 246-262 WAC must present their proposal at a preliminary design conference with the department or local health officer. The owners or their architects or engineers must address the health and safety issues, including maintenance and operation of the proposed innovative design, and good engineering practice. Before determining whether to approve or deny such application, the department or local health officer may require additional information and additional review or justification by a safety engineer or other qualified individual.
 - (6) Owners must ensure any WRF construction, modification, or an alteration is completed according to approved plans and specifications.
 - (7) Upon completion of WRF construction, modification, or alteration and before use, owners must:
 - (a) Submit to the department or local health officer a construction report signed by an engineer or architect stating that to the best of the Engineer's or Architect's knowledge and belief, the installation is in compliance with the approved plans. The Engineer and Architect's Certification of the above condition in no way relieves any other party from meeting requirements imposed by contract or other regulations, including commonly accepted industry practices.
 - (b) Notify the department or local health officer at least five working days before intended use of the facility; and
 - (c) Obtain a valid operating permit from the local health jurisdiction having authority for surveillance of the pool.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 90-02-51 (Order 124B), re-codified as 246-260-030, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-70-010 (Order 042), 248-98-010, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation 98.010, effective 3/11/90).

WAC 246-260-031 General Design, Construction, and Equipment for All WRF Pool Facilities

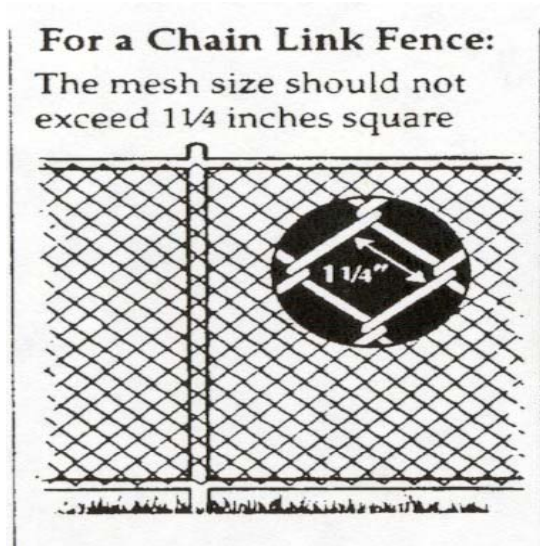
(See additional design and construction requirements for swimming pools in section 041 for spa pools in sections 051 and 061, for wading pools in section 071, for spray pools in section 081 and for specialty design conditions in section 091. See WAC 246-262 for specific requirements for water park type features).

- (1) **Location.** Owners must locate pools to minimize surface drainage and other potential sources of pollution from entering the pool.
- (2) **Materials.** Owners must use only structure and equipment materials that are nontoxic, durable, inert, and easily cleanable.
- (3) **Walking Surfaces.** Owners must design and maintain walking surfaces:
 - (a) Sloping away from the pool or pools;
 - (b) Sloping a minimum of one-fourth inch per foot to drain;
 - (c) Having a non-slip finish;
 - (d) Not having an abrupt change in height of greater than one-half inch, a gap no greater than one-half inch in width, or a crumbling surface presenting a potential tripping hazard;
 - (e) Equipped with sufficient drains to prevent standing water; and
 - (f) Of easily cleanable, impervious finishes.
- (4) **Barriers for New Construction and Remodeling.**
 - (a) Owners must provide barriers to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access to pools.
 - (b) Barriers must be sixty inches or more in height at limited use pools.
 - (c) Barriers must be seventy-two inches or more in height at general use pools.
 - (d) Barriers (see figures 031.1 and 031.2) must not:
 - (i) Allow passage of a four-inch diameter sphere;
 - (ii) Have spaces between vertical members greater than a width of one and three-quarter inches if distance between the tops of horizontal members are spaced less than forty-five inches apart.
 - (e) Solid barriers shall have no indentations or protrusions present, other than normal construction tolerances and masonry joints.
 - (f) Barriers must have at least one lockable gate or door provided with a self-closing, self-latching mechanism that uses a continuously locked latch, coded lock or other equivalent access control system that always requires a key or code to enter pool area. An eighteen-inch radius of solid material must be provided around the latch (see figure 031.3) to preclude a child on the outside of the barrier from reaching through the gate or barrier and opening the latch. Any other entrances to pools must provide equivalent protection or a latch height sixty inches or more from the ground.
 - (g) Restricted area service entrances are exempt from door or gate requirements provided that no public access is available.
 - (h) Lifeguarded pools are not required to have a self-closing, self-latching gate during the period a pool is in use. Facility gates shall be closed and locked during nonuse periods; and
 - (i) Barrier heights are measured on the side outside the pool enclosure area. Surrounding

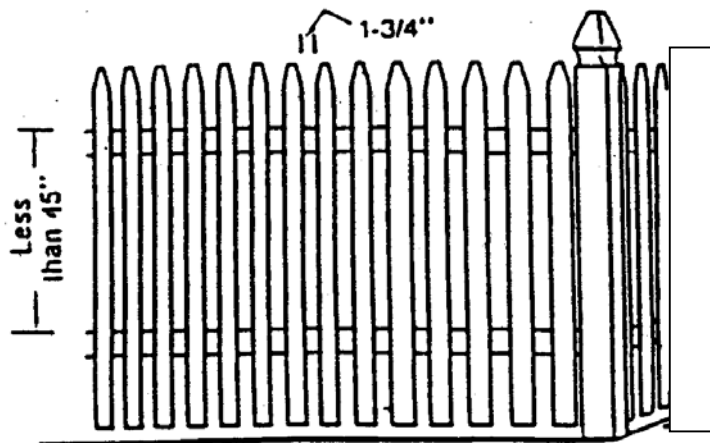
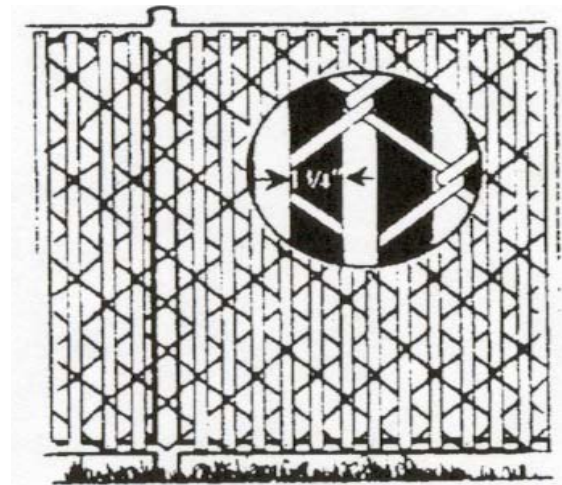
ground levels and structures must be evaluated by the owner to ensure that they do not reduce the effective height of the barrier.

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Figure 031.1
Barrier Construction Detail



Unless slats, are used to reduce mesh openings to no more than 1 and 3/4 inches.



IF HORIZONTAL MEMBERS ARE LESS THAN 45 INCHES APART, VERTICAL SPACING SHALL NOT EXCEED 1 AND 3/4 INCHES

Figure 031.2

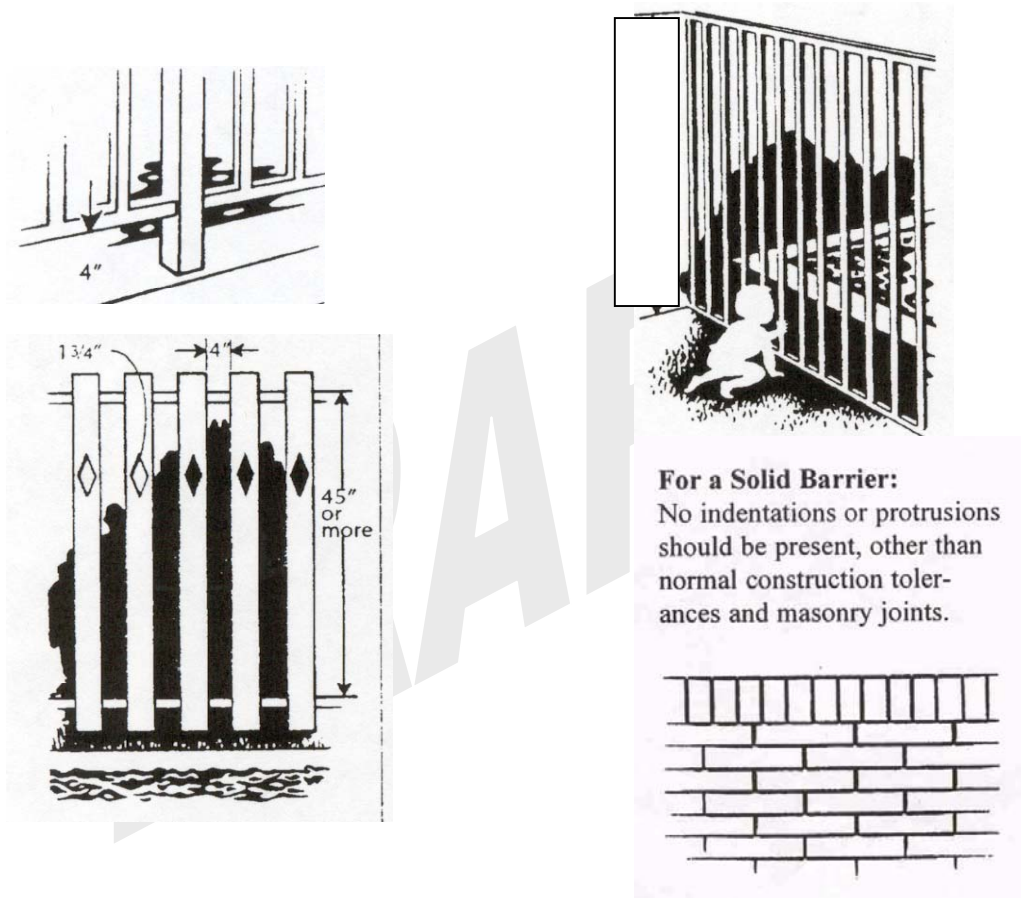
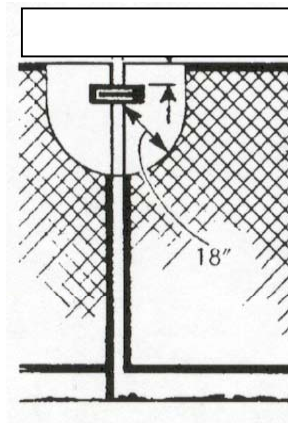


Figure 031.3

Gate and Latching Mechanism Detail* [When latch height is less than 60 inches from the ground, a continuously locked lock must be provided with 18" radius of protection around the latch.]



(5) Barriers for Existing Facilities.

- (a) Owners must provide barriers to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access to pools.
- (b) Owners of pool facilities constructed before April 12, 1990, and not modified after that date must provide barriers that:
 - (i) Are forty-eight inches or more in height;
 - (ii) Have openings between vertical members of six inches or less; and
 - (iii) Have a self-closing and self-latching gate or door at each entry to the pool area.
- (c) Owners of pool facilities constructed between April 12, 1990 and January 1, 2003 and not modified after that date must provide barriers that:
 - (i) Are sixty inches or more in height;
 - (ii) Have openings between members meeting requirements in subsection (4)(d) of this section; and
 - (iii) Have lockable gates and entrances with self-closing, self-latching mechanisms fifty-four inches or more from the ground or with continuously locked mechanisms less than fifty-four inches from the ground requiring a key or equivalent access control to open.

(6) Pool Surface. Owners must ensure pool surfaces are constructed and maintained to:

- (a) Have white or light color finish;
- (b) Not causing cutting, pinching, puncturing, entanglement, or abrasion hazard under casual contact; and
- (c) Conform to ANSI/NSPI Standard 1, American National Standard for Public Pools or ANSI Standard NSPI-@-1999, American National Standard for Public Spas.

(7) Inlets. Owners must provide pool inlets that are:

- (a) Submerged;
- (b) Located to produce uniform water and chemical circulation throughout the pool; and
- (c) Located on the bottom of swimming and wading pools over twenty five hundred square feet and spa pools greater than ten thousand gallons.

(8) Outlets.

- (a) Owners must provide pool outlets with:
 - (i) Overflow and main drain grating systems each designed to carry one hundred percent of the total recirculation filter flow;
 - (ii) Main drain piping systems designed to carry one hundred percent or more of total recirculation filter flow when a single pump is used or fifty percent or more of total recirculation filter flow when multiple pumps are used; and
 - (iii) Valving on main drain piping designed to provide required flow.
- (b) Owners must ensure that overflow outlets can maintain a minimum of sixty percent of filter recirculation flow at all times.
- (c) Overflow outlets must consist of an overflow channel on the perimeter of swimming pools twenty-five hundred square feet or more and spa pools ten thousand gallons or more, to promote uniform circulation and skimming action of the upper water layer with:
 - (i) A design preventing all matter entering the channel from returning to the pool;
 - (ii) Dimensions minimizing the hazard for bathers, such as catching arms or feet;
 - (iii) One one-hundredth of a foot slope per foot or more;
 - (iv) Drains sufficiently spaced and sized to collect and remove overflow water to return

- line and filter, where applicable; and
- (v) Size sufficient to carry one hundred percent of the recirculation flow plus the surge flow without flooding the overflow channel.
- (d) Overflow outlets must consist of skimmers or overflow channels for pools less than twenty-five hundred square feet.
 - (i) Weirs provided in skimmers must have a normal operation flow rate of three to five gpm per inch of weir;
 - (ii) Skimmer equipment must be recessed in the pool wall so no part protrudes beyond the plane of the wall into the pool;
 - (iii) Skimmers must be equipped with a device, such as an equalizer line, to prevent air lock in the recirculation suction line. When equalizer lines are used, they must be protected with grates listed by IAPMO or UL to help reduce hair entrapments;
 - (iv) Skimmers must be is equipped with a removable and cleanable screen designed to trap large solids;
 - (v) Skimmers must operate continuously with a minimum displacement rate of fifteen gallons per bather in swimming pools, twenty gallons in spa pools, and seven gallons in wading pools.
- (e) Main drains in all pools must:
 - (i) Be located at swimming and wading pool low points;
 - (ii) Consist of two or more main drains for any pumped water recirculating system designed. Piping shall:
 - (A) Be manifolded such that the water is pumping from both main drains simultaneously such that no single drain could be the sole source of suction. Drains shall be spaced a minimum of three feet apart. When using more than two main drains with a pump, design shall distribute flow such that no single drain could be the primary source of suction.
 - (B) Be designed so velocity in piping assuming one hundred percent of the pump recirculation flow shall not exceed six fps up to the main drain outlet box.
 - (iii) Have grates on drains with maximum flow of one and one-half feet per second or net outlet area four times or greater than the discharge pipe.
 - (iv) Have openings not allowing a sphere greater than one-half inch in diameter to pass;
 - (v) Have mechanically fastened grates designed to withstand the force of users;
 - (vi) Have the total open area of grates sized to prevent a suction or entrapment hazard dangerous to user; and
 - (vii) When the main drains are located on vertical walls of the spas [this requirement only applies to spa pools], have a design listed by IAPMO or UL to aid in preventing hair entrapment.
- (f) Owners of existing swimming and spa pools with single main drains must install two main drains or equivalent approved by department or local health officer in order to prevent potential entrapment and suction hazards to users. This shall be provided whenever modifications are made to existing pools or no later than January 1, 2006.
- (g) Owners of existing wading pools with single main drains must install two main drains or equivalent approved by department or local health officer in order to prevent potential entrapment, suction or evisceration hazards to users. This shall be provided whenever modifications are made to existing pools or no later than January 1, 2006.

- (9) **Pumps.** Owners must have and maintain recirculation pumps with adequate capacity to provide design flows for the entire operating and backwash cycles of the filter.
- (10) **Strainers.** Owners must provide hair and lint strainers for pumps that precede filters.
- (11) **Pool Appurtenances.**
- (a) Owners must ensure pools have:
 - (i) Handholds when the pool deck is greater than twelve inches above the water surface.
 - (ii) Stairs for spa pools; and
 - (iii) Stairs, ladders, or stepholes for access at the shallow end of swimming pools.
 - (b) Owners must ensure that stairs, when provided, meeting the following construction requirements:
 - (i) Non-slip tread finish;
 - (ii) Contrasting color stair tread edges;
 - (iii) Placement recessed into the side of pools specifically designed for lap or competitive swimming;
 - (iv) Handrail having leading edges less than eighteen inches beyond and less than eight inches inside (horizontally) the vertical plane of the bottom riser;
 - (v) Riser treads with a minimum unobstructed, tread depth of ten inches and a minimum surface area each of two hundred forty-inches;
 - (vi) Uniform riser heights of seven and one-half inches or less on general use swim pools fifteen hundred square feet or more and spa pools greater than forty feet in perimeter, except the bottom riser may be less than the uniform height; and
 - (vii) Uniform riser heights of ten inches or less for all other pools, except the bottom riser may be plus or minus two inches of the uniform height.
 - (c) Ladders or step holes at swimming pools must be:
 - (i) Spaced at a minimum of one for every seventy-five feet of swimming pool perimeter deeper than four feet;
 - (ii) Provided at both sides of the deep end of swim pools over thirty feet in width; and
 - (iii) Equipped with handrails.
 - (d) When spa pools are elevated above the floor, step risers on the exterior of the spa pool must conform with UBC requirements for risers with non-slip tread finishes.
- (12) **Valves.** Owners must provide valves to allow isolation and maintenance of equipment.
- (13) **Balancing Tanks.** Owners must provide balancing tanks for pools designed with overflow channels. Balancing tanks must be of adequate size to prevent air lock in the pump suction line and have sufficient capacity to prevent flooding of the overflow channel.
- (14) **Equipment and Chemical Storage Rooms.** Owners must provide enclosed, locked, lighted, vented rooms for mechanical equipment, with floors sloped to drain and minimum access area three feet wide around equipment. Owners must provide a separate chemical storage area or room that conforms to manufacturer's requirements for every chemical used in the pool area.
- (15) **Make-up Water.** Owners must ensure that there is a supply of make-up, with associated piping, for each pool:
- (a) Sufficient to replace daily pool losses;
 - (b) From a supply conforming to chapter 246-290 WAC;
 - (c) Preventing cross connections; and
 - (d) If using a pool fill spout, not projecting greater than one inch into the space above the water surface and shielded to not create a deck hazard.

- (16) **Filters.** Owners must equip pools with filtration equipment:
- (a) Meeting the applicable standards of NSF (for commercial application) or equivalent;
 - (b) Having a rate of flow indicator and gauge(s) for monitoring backpressure on filter;
 - (c) Having a means of discharging filter backwash to waste with a sight glass in a manner not creating a cross connection or a public nuisance;
 - (d) Having means to release air entering the filter tank for pressure filters;
 - (e) When cartridge filters are used having an extra set of cartridges and having any bypass valves in a permanently closed position.
- (17) **Disinfection Equipment.**
- (a) Owners must provide disinfection equipment:
 - (i) Providing a continuous and effective disinfectant residual;
 - (ii) Using a disinfectant with an easily monitored residual;
 - (iii) Having a design feed rate providing effective disinfection levels for peak demand conditions;
 - (iv) Conforming to NSF standards if disinfection chemical is other than gas chlorine.
 - (v) That does not dispense disinfection products containing cyanuric acid on indoor pool facilities.
 - (b) If disinfection equipment has adjustable output rate chemical feed of liquid solutions, the equipment must:
 - (i) Feed under positive pressure in the recirculation system;
 - (ii) Provide a means for dosage adjustment; and
 - (iii) If the disinfection equipment is above pool water surface level, have provisions to prevent disinfectant solution siphoning when equipment is turned off.
 - (c) Solid tablets or granules must not be placed in skimmer basket.
 - (d) If chemical controllers are used for adjusting disinfectant levels, equipment must be of sufficient size to meet peak demand feed rates to prevent the chemical controller from automatic shutoff at maximum feed rate when disinfectant is still needed.
 - (e) Rooms holding chlorine gas equipment must:
 - (i) Be above ground level;
 - (ii) Be constructed so all openings or partitions with adjoining rooms are sealed;
 - (iii) Be located with consideration of prevailing winds to dissipate leaked chlorine away from the pool facility;
 - (iv) Have door(s) opening only outward to the out-of- doors;
 - (v) Have a sign on the door exterior reading DANGER CHLORINE in large enough letters to be read twenty-five feet away.
 - (f) Chlorine rooms must have mechanical exhausting ventilation that includes:
 - (i) Air inlets located as far as possible from fan intakes to promote good air circulation patterns;
 - (ii) A minimum of one air change per minute in the chlorine room when fan is operating;
 - (iii) A remote switch outside the room or a door- activated switch to turn on fan before entering;
 - (iv) Suction for fan near the floor;
 - (v) Exhaust vents located to prevent contaminating air intake and prevent hazard to pool facility users; and
 - (vi) Screened chlorinator vents.

- (g) Gas chlorine systems must:
 - (i) Be vacuum injection type, with vacuum-actuated cylinder regulators;
 - (ii) Provide integral backflow and anti-siphon protection at the injector; and
 - (iii) Have taring (net weight of cylinder gas) scales for determining chlorine weight; and
 - (iv) Have a means for automatic shut-off when water flow is interrupted.
 - (h) A self-contained breathing apparatus designed for use in chlorine atmospheres caused by chlorine leaks must be available in an area accessible to the operator outside the chlorine room. The apparatus must be maintained in accordance with Department of Labor and Industry standards. If procedures can be established and documented with emergency service fire districts or other approved organizations within the area for promptly responding to chlorine leaks then no breathing protection must be maintained at the pool facility.
 - (i) Chlorine gas cylinders must:
 - (i) Be stored only in designated chlorine rooms;
 - (ii) Have an approved valve-stem cylinder wrench on the valve stem to shut the system down in an emergency event;
 - (iii) Be properly secured to prevent tipping;
 - (iv) Be tagged to indicate cylinders are empty or full; and
 - (v) Not exceed one hundred fifty pounds tare weight per cylinder.
 - (j) Owners must ensure that chemical disinfectants are not hand-fed into pools actively in use, except on an emergency basis.
- (18) **Chemical Feeding Equipment For pH Control.** Owners must provide chemical feed equipment for pH control, with a means of automatic shut off if water flow is interrupted, for:
- (a) Swimming pools fifty thousand gallons or greater;
 - (b) Spa pools ten thousand gallons or greater; and
 - (c) All pools treated with caustic soda or carbon dioxide.
- (19) **Ventilation.** Owners must provide ventilation sufficient to maintain air quality and to prevent buildup of moisture in indoor areas in a manner conforming to ASHRAE pool facility standards. When features are provided at a pool facility natatorium (indoor) that will place water mists or droplets in the air (e.g. water slides, fountains, sprays, etc.) the ventilation system must have sufficient capacity to exchange the total volume of indoor air with outdoor air during peak usage periods at a minimum rate of:
- (a) Six times per hour for non-spectator facilities; or
 - (b) Eight times per hour for spectator facilities.
- (20) **Locker Room and Dressing Rooms.**
- (a) Owners must provide general use pool facilities with locker rooms and dressing rooms having:
 - (i) Separate facilities for each gender constructed to block line of sight into locker rooms;
 - (ii) Non-slip floors that are impervious to water and have sufficient drains to prevent standing water;
 - (iii) Easily cleanable walls, lockers, and benches (if provided);
 - (iv) Junctions between walls and floors coved for ease of cleaning; and
 - (v) Lockers, if provided, that are properly anchored to prevent tipping.
 - (b) Owners must provide limited use pool facilities with locker or dressing rooms meeting

the requirements of subsection (20)(a) of this section if the pool facilities are located more than one-quarter mile from any served living units.

- (c) Owners must provide general use recirculating spray pool facilities with locker or dressing rooms meeting the requirements of subpart (a) of this section if the pool facilities are located indoors.

(21) Restrooms, Shower Rooms, and Plumbing Fixtures.

- (a) Owners must provide general use pool facilities with restroom and shower room facilities having plumbing fixture types and numbers as described in Table 031.1 of this section (swim and wading pool bathing loads and spa bather capacity are additive for determining total bather load). The pool facility design must provide users easy access to the restroom and shower facilities with minimum cross traffic of non-users.
- (b) Owners must provide general use pool facilities with:
 - (i) Hose bibs around pool decks at a maximum spacing of one hundred fifty feet;
 - (ii) A hose bib accessible to each locker room;
 - (iii) A hose bib within each equipment room at facilities with a pool of fifteen hundred square feet or more;
 - (iv) A janitor's sink at facilities with a pool of fifteen hundred square feet or more; and
 - (v) An operable drinking fountain conforming to ASA requirements at facilities with a pool fifteen hundred square feet or more.
- (c) Owners must provide limited use pool facilities with:
 - (i) Restroom and shower room facilities having plumbing fixture types and numbers as described in Table 031.2 of this section, if bathing load is eighty persons or less;
 - (ii) Restroom and shower room facilities having plumbing fixture types and numbers as described in Table 031.1 of this section, if bathing load exceeds eighty persons;
 - (iii) Hose bibs around pool decks at a maximum spacing of one hundred fifty feet;
 - (iv) A hose bib accessible to each locker room; and
 - (v) A hose bib within each equipment room at facilities with a pool of fifteen hundred square feet or more.

TABLE 031.1

Plumbing Fixture Minimum Requirements*for General Use Pools
(Includes swimming, spa, and wading pools**)

Amount of Fixtures Required for Occupancy Load by Sex

TYPE OF FIXTURES	MALE	FEMALE
Toilets up to 120	1/60	1/30
From 121-360	1/80	1/40
Over 360 add	1/150	1/75
Urinal up to 120	1/60	N/A
From 121-360	1/80	N/A
From 360 add	1/150	N/A

Showers up to 120	1/40	1/40
From 121-360	1/60	1/60
Over 360 add	1/100	1/100
Sinks up to 200	1/100	1/100
From 201-400	1/200	1/200
Over 400 add	1/400	1/400

* When sufficient supporting documentation is provided, the restroom fixture numbers may be adjusted between the genders based on proposed use of the facility. (E.g., if the designer has experience and justification based on similar type facilities indicating that providing one additional shower for the women and one less for men would provide a sufficient number of fixtures to meet demands this may be allowed.)

** If a general use spa or wading pool is the only pool at the facility, then a minimum of only one toilet, shower, and sink is required for each gender.

TABLE 031.2
Plumbing fixture Minimum Requirements for Limited Use Pools
(Includes swimming, spa, and wading pools).

POOLS WITH:	TOILETS	SHOWERS	SINKS	DRESSING ROOMS
Living units* within 100 feet and less than three stories	-	-	-	-
Living units > 100 feet but < 500 feet and less than 3 stories	1	1**	1	-
Living units within ¼ mile and/or with three or more stories	1	1	1	-
Living units greater than ¼ mile	1(M) 1(F)	1(M) 1(F)	1(M) 1(F)	1(M) 1(F)

* “Living units” means all the units the facility serves.

** A shower is required only if a spa is present.

- (d) Owners must provide general use recirculating spray pool facilities with:
- (i) Separate restroom facilities for each gender containing at least one toilet and sink;
 - (ii) Hose bibs around pool decks at a maximum spacing of one hundred fifty feet; and

- (iii) Additional plumbing fixtures, if indoors, conforming to the requirements for general use pools described in Table 031.1 of this section.
- (e) Owners must provide limited use recirculating spray pool facilities with:
 - (i) Hose bibs around pool decks at a maximum spacing of one hundred fifty feet; and
 - (ii) A restroom facility containing at least one toilet and one hand-washing sink, if living units served are greater than one hundred feet away from the main pool.
- (f) Restroom facilities must be located convenient to, and no further than one hundred feet away from, the main pool. They must have flush toilets provided with toilet tissue in dispensers and hand-washing sinks provided with:
 - (i) Running water delivered with hot and cold water or through a mixing faucet with a maximum temperature of one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit.
 - (ii) Single service soap in non-glass dispenser;
 - (iii) Single service towels or electric hand dryer; and
 - (iv) A minimum running water cycle of at least ten seconds if self-closing valves are provided on faucets.
- (g) Shower facilities must be located convenient to and no further than one hundred feet away from, the main pool. They must have:
 - (i) A design allowing a full-body shower in the nude;
 - (ii) A design providing an enclosure confining water to the shower area;
 - (iii) Non-slip floor impervious to water with sufficient drains to prevent water from standing within the shower areas;
 - (iv) Running water delivered at a temperature between ninety degrees and one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit;
 - (v) Single service soap in non-glass dispenser; and
 - (vi) Wall surfaces impervious to water up to shower head height.
- (h) If owners limit the number of bathers within their facility and post and enforce the maximum bather load, owners may base the number of required plumbing fixtures on the posted maximum bather load.
- (i) Owners must dispose of all wastewater in a manner approved by the local health officer.
- (22) **Diaper Changing Stations.** Owners must provide a diaper changing station, including a hand-washing sink conforming to the requirements in subsection (20)(f) of this section, accessible to all bathers, if children in diapers are allowed in the pool facility and the facility is:
 - (a) A general use pool facility;
 - (b) A limited use pool facility located more than one hundred feet away from living units served.
- (23) **Lighting.** Owners must design and maintain pool facility lighting to a minimum level as described in table 031. Sufficient lighting must be maintained to see the bottom of the pool at all times pool in use. Owners must provide protective shielding for all lighting fixtures above walking surfaces and pool areas.

TABLE 031.3 *
Minimum Lighting Level Required at Water Recreation Facilities.

LOCATION	MINIMUM LIGHTING LEVEL
Indoor pool surface	30 foot candles
Outdoor pool surface*	10 foot candles
Locker rooms	20 foot candles
Pool Decks *	10 foot candles

*Outdoor pool facilities, which are used in daylight hours, only (before dusk) are not required to meet this standard.

(24) Food Service. When food service is provided, owners must:

- (a) At general use pool facilities, ensure a minimum six-foot clear area between pool edge and food and beverage sale and consumption;
- (b) At limited use pool facilities, prohibit food and beverage in pool water and maintain a minimum four-foot clear area between pool edge and any tables and chairs provided for food service;
- (c) At general use pool facilities, prohibit alcohol;
- (d) At limited use pool facilities, when alcohol is sold within the pool facility, provide a lifeguard or attendant at the pool area;
- (e) Provide trash containers; and
- (f) Prohibit glass containers in pool facility.

WAC 246-260-041 Swimming Pool Design, Construction, and Equipment

For more general design, and construction requirements that pertain to all pools see section 031.

(1) **Location.** Owners must ensure pump houses, planters, balconies, landscape features, trees, and other structures are located fifteen feet or more horizontally away from any swimming pool, or provide barriers or other means to prevent diving or read access to a pool from the structures. Such structures do not include:

- (a) Building walkways above the second story;
- (b) Non accessible roofs eight feet or more in height; or
- (c) Any barriers provided to prevent unauthorized pool access (e.g. fencing).

(2) **Walking Deck Surfaces.** Owners must design and maintain walking deck surfaces as follows:

- (a) Walking deck surfaces must be at least 4 ft. wide on the entire perimeter of pools less than fifteen hundred square feet;
- (b) For pools less than fifteen hundred square feet, walking deck surfaces must be at least:
 - (i) Six feet wide at the shallow end of a variable-depth pool; and
 - (ii) Six feet wide on a minimum of twenty-five percent of the deck space of free form pools.
- (c) For pools fifteen hundred square feet or larger, walking deck surfaces must be at least

six feet wide:

- (i) On the entire perimeter of outdoor pools; and
- (ii) On fifty percent of the perimeter of indoor pools;
- (iii) The remaining fifty percent perimeter of the indoor pool shall be a minimum of four feet wide.

- (d) A minimum of sixteen square feet per bather on pools fifteen hundred square feet or more. Determine maximum bather load as described under subsection (8) of this section. If owner provides maximum facility occupancy loading less than that of subsection (8) of this section, and such occupancy limit is posted and enforced, that loading may be used in lieu of the maximum bather load figure as described under subsection (8) of this section, and
- (e) General use pools shall not have sand and grass areas within the pool enclosure unless separated to prevent direct access from the pool area and means are provided for cleansing the bather's feet before re-entering the pool and deck area.

(3) Pool General Floor and Wall Dimensional Design.

- (a) Owners must ensure pool dimensional designs for floors and walls provide for safety, circulation and quality
- (b) Pool floors must have uniform slopes with:
 - (i) Pools fifteen hundred square feet or more having a maximum slope of one foot drop in twelve feet of run at pool depths to five and one-half feet or less; and
 - (ii) Floor slopes not intruding into the area designated as the diving envelope.
- (c) Pool sidewalls must not curve or intrude into the pool beyond the vertical, more than twelve inches at three and one-half feet and eighteen inches at a depth of five feet. The radius of curvature of wall-floor junctions must not exceed the maximum radius designated in table 041.2 of this section for depths over five feet. Vertical means walls not greater than eleven degrees from plumb:

TABLE 041.2
Maximum Radius Coving or Pool Intrusion Dimensions
Between Pool Floor and Wall*

POOL DEPTH	3'	3'6"	5'	Less than 5'
MINIMUM SIDEWALL DEPTH (Springline)	2'2"	2'6"	3'6"	At 3'6"
MAXIMUM RADIUS OF CURVATURE	10"	12"	1'6"	**Maximum radius equals pool depth minus the vertical wall depth

***NOTE:**

For pool depths falling between the depths listed, values can be interpolated.

For pool depths less than three feet and greater than five feet, values must be extrapolated.

Radius of coving must not intrude into pool within diving envelope.

- (d) Pool configuration must have a transitional radius from wall to floor where floor slopes join walls such that:
 - (i) The center of the radius not less than the minimum vertical depth specified under table 041.2 of this section below the water surface level;
 - (ii) The arc of the radius is tangent to the wall; and
 - (iii) The maximum radius of coving, or any intrusion into the pool wall/floor interface, is determined by subtracting the vertical wall depth from the total pool depth.
- (4) **Ledges.** In new construction or alterations to existing construction, ledges are prohibited in swimming pool sidewalls, except as specified in subsection 091(3) of this chapter.
- (5) **Specific Design Requirements for Pools Furnishing Areas for Diving.** Owners must ensure areas of designated for diving activities include a diving envelope meeting minimum requirements in:
 - (a) D-8.01, Table 1, APHA Public Pool Regulations, 1981, if the pool user would enter from the deck level twelve inches or less from water surface level.
 - (b) Figure 12.3: in “Diving Injuries, Research Findings and Recommendations for Reducing Catastrophic Injuries,” Gabrielson, McElhaney, O’Brien, CRC Press, 2001, Figure 12.3 if the pool user would enter from the deck, a platform, or a diving board at a height greater than twelve inches and less than twenty inches (one-half meter) from water surface level; or
 - (c) Dimensions for Diving Facilities, FINA facility rules, 2000-2001, if the pool user would enter from the diving board or platform at a height of twenty inches (one half meter) or greater from water surface level.
- (6) **Pool Appurtenances.**
 - (a) Owners must ensure when swimming pools contain diving boards and diving platforms, they must:
 - (i) Be installed according to manufacturer’s instructions;
 - (ii) Have slip-resistant tread surfaces;
 - (iii) Have steps and ladders leading to diving boards, which provide handrails;
 - (iv) Be protected with guardrails and one intermediate rail, both extending at least to the water edge when one meter or more above the water.
 - (b) Owners must ensure starting blocks must:
 - (i) Be firmly secured when in use, and
 - (ii) If on the shallow end of pool, be removed when not in use by the competitive swimmers trained in proper use of starting blocks, or provided with protective equipment designed to prevent access;
 - (c) Owners must ensure that water slides conform to requirements under chapter 246-262 WAC.
- (7) **Turnover.** Owners of swimming pools must design and maintain water treatment recirculation rates to completely turn over the entire pool water volume of pools in six hours or less.
- (8) **Pool Depth Markings.** Owners must provide water depth markings in feet:
 - (a) Located on the vertical wall of pools at or above the water level so as to be easily readable from the water, in numbers a minimum of two inches high;
 - (b) When working with overflow channels where there is no room for placement of the

- vertical wall markings, vertical wall markings shall not be required.
- (c) Located on the horizontal surface of the coping or deck of pools within eighteen inches of the water edge, so as to be easily readable while standing on the deck facing the water, in numbers a minimum of four inches high;
 - (d) Placed at the maximum and minimum water depths and at all points of slope change;
 - (e) Spaced at increments of water depth of two feet or less;
 - (f) Spaced along sides of pools at horizontal intervals of twenty-five feet or less;
 - (g) Arranged uniformly on both sides and ends of pool;
 - (h) Placed on all major deviations in shape;
 - (i) Applied in a contrasting deck color and,
 - (j) Made of slip-resistant material on decks.
- (9) **Safety Line or Marking Line.**
- (a) Owners must provide either safety float lines or marking lines separating areas where the pool bottom breaks from a uniform slope in the shallow area leading to deeper water.
 - (b) Safety float lines, when used, must:
 - (i) Be kept in place at all times, except when the pool is used for a specific purpose such as lap swimming or competitive use;
 - (ii) Be placed one foot toward the shallow end away from the break point line;
 - (iii) Be strung tightly allowing the bather to hold onto the line for support;
 - (iv) Provide floats on the line at a minimum distance of every four feet;
 - (v) Have a receptacle for receiving the safety line either recessed in the wall or constructed so as not to constitute a safety hazard when the safety line is removed.
 - (c) Marking lines when used must:
 - (i) Be placed on the sides and the bottom of the pool at the break point line; and
 - (ii) Be of a contrasting color to the background color of the pool sidewalls and floor.
 - (d) In pool facilities with uniform slopes not exceeding one foot of drop in twelve feet of run from the shallow end to the to deep end of the pool, a safety float line or marking line is not required.
- (10) **Bather Load.** Owners must provide each bather, at all times, thirty square feet or more of water surface area in pool areas five or more feet deep, plus:
- (a) If an outdoor pool, fifteen square feet or more of water surface area in pool areas less than five feet deep; or
 - (b) If an indoor pool, twenty-five square feet or more of water surface area in pool areas less than five feet deep.
- (11) **Emergency Equipment.** Owners must provide first aid and emergency equipment readily available at swimming pool facilities during operating hours, including:
- (a) A telephone within the facility for general use pools;
 - (b) A suitable area to accommodate persons requiring first aid treatment;
 - (c) A telephone accessible within one minute for limited use pool facilities;
 - (d) A standard 15 unit first aid kit and blanket;
 - (e) For facilities with lifeguards:
 - (i) A rescue tube or rescue buoy at each pool lifeguard station;
 - (ii) A backboard with means to secure a victim to a board and immobilize head, neck, and back.
 - (f) For pool facilities without lifeguards:

- (i) A reaching pole at least twelve feet long with a double crook life hook;
 - (ii) A reaching pole at least twelve feet long for every fifteen hundred square feet of pool surface area; and
 - (iii) A throwing buoy, throw-rope bag, or other similar device with a rope the width of the pool or fifty feet long, whichever is less, for reaching and retrieving a victim .
- (12) **Foot Baths.** Owners must prohibit the construction and use of foot baths at water recreation facilities. This does not preclude the construction and use of foot showers, provided the area is well drained.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-090, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-090, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-050, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; 248-98-050, filed 10/3/67; Regulation .98.050, effective 3/11/60.)

WAC 246-260-051 Spa Pool Design, Construction, and Equipment

For more general design, and construction requirements that pertain to all pools see section 031.

- (1) **Walking Surfaces.** Owners must design and maintain walking surfaces four feet or more wide around fifty percent or more of each spa pool. If spa pools are greater than one hundred square feet in surface area, than the entire perimeter must have a four-foot wide walking surface. If walking surfaces are provided for spas thirty inches or more in height above the floor, then they must have guardrails in conformance with UBC codes.
- (2) **Spa Pool Structure.** Owners must ensure spa pool facilities have:
 - (a) Surfaces that are white or light color, if a pool is one hundred square feet or more;
 - (b) Uniform floor slopes not exceeding one foot of drop in twelve feet of run sloped to drain;
 - (c) A minimum height between the top of the pool rim and the ceiling of seven feet;
 - (d) A maximum operational depth of four feet measured from the water line, except for special purpose designed pools; and
 - (e) Heater thermostat switches inaccessible to bathers.
- (3) **Spa Capacity.** The maximum number of persons allowed in the spa pool at any one time is the spa capacity. Spa pool capacity shall be the most restrictive of the following factors:
 - (a) The number of bathers able to be in the spa pool allowing ten square feet or more of water surface for each bather.
 - (b) Maximum bather load as calculated using the formula in subsection (4) of this section; or
 - (c) The capacity of the overflow system when using skimmers shall be adequate to handle 20 gallons of displacement per bather.
- (4) **Bather Load.** The maximum number of persons using the spa pool in a one-hour period of time is the bather load of the spa pool. Maximum bather load shall not exceed one person per hour for each twenty gallons of water treated per hour:
 - (a) Bather load is calculated by dividing the spa volume by the turnover time [see (4)(b)] to determine the turnover rate in gallons per minute. Continue by dividing the turnover rate by the constant that correlates to the turnover time used in calculating the turnover rate [see (4)(c)]. This results in the bather load for the spa pool under heavy, moderate,

and light loading conditions.

(b) Spa turnover times are established in relation to loads as follows:

- (i) Ten minutes for heavy loading;
- (ii) Twenty minutes for moderate loading;
- (iii) Thirty minutes for light loading;
- (iv) Sixty minutes for swim spas having relatively light loads.

Note: sixty minute turnover times are established for swim spa facilities.

(c) To determine which constant to use in calculating bather loads use:

- (i) Eight gallons per minute per person for a turnover time of ten minutes, and
- (ii) Six and two thirds gallons per minute per person for a turnover time of twenty, thirty or sixty minutes.

Examples:

To calculate the light bather load of an 800 gallon spa pool, divide 800 gallons by 30 minutes to find the turnover rate of 27 gallons per minute. Then divide the turnover rate of 27 gallons per minute by six and two-thirds gallons per minute per person to find the light bather load of 4 people.

To calculate the moderate bather load of an 800-gallon spa pool, divide 800 gallons by 20 minutes to find the turnover rate of 40 gallons per minute. Then divide the turnover rate of 40 gallons per minute by six and two thirds gallons per minute per person to find the moderate bather load of 6 persons.

To calculate the heavy bather load for an 800-gallon spa pool, divide 800 gallons by 10 minutes to find a turnover rate of 80 gallons per minute. Then divide the turnover rate of 80 gallons per minute by eight gallons per minute per person to find the heavy bather load of 8 people.

(5) **Emergency Equipment.** Owners must provide first aid and emergency equipment readily at new, remodeled, and existing spa pool facilities during operating hours including:

- (a) A telephone within the facility for general use spa;
- (b) A telephone within one minute access for limited use spa pools;
- (c) A standard sixteen unit first aid kit;
- (d) A blanket reserved for emergency use; and
- (e) A clearly marked emergency shut-off switch for all pumps within twenty feet of each spa, accessible to the public, and triggering an audible alarm.

(6) **Hotel/Motel Spas.** If spa pools are located in guest hotel or motel room, then owners are exempt from the provisions of sections 031 and 051 of this chapter, except:

- (a) Subsection 031(4) on barriers, such that the guest room plus any associated lanai or deck may be considered an enclosure unit;
- (b) Subsection 031(7)(e)(ii) on main drains;
- (c) Subsection 031(16) on disinfection equipment;
- (d) Subsection 051(5)(b) and (c) on emergency equipment.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-110, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.

Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-110, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-70-010 (Order 042), 248-98-040, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation .98.040, effective 3/11/60.)

WAC 246-260-061 Special Design and Construction Provisions For Prefabricated Spa at Smaller Limited Use Spa Pools

- (1) Owners are exempt from the requirements for design, construction, and equipment in sections 031 and 051 of this chapter for prefabricated spa pools at limited use facilities serving less than fifteen living units, except for requirements listed in this section. Owners must also ensure that chemicals are stored in a manner to minimize safety risks.
- (2) The requirements in subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7)(b), (7)(d)(iii), (7)(d)(v), (7)(e), (8), (9), (14), (15), (16), and Table 031.2 in section 031 of this chapter apply to prefabricated spa pools at limited use facilities serving less than fifteen living units.
- (3) The requirements in subsections (2)(b), (2)(e), (2)(f), (4), (5)(b), (5)(c), and (5)(e) of section 051 of this chapter apply to prefabricated spa pools at limited use facilities serving less than fifteen living units.

WAC 246-260-071 Wading Pool Design, Construction, and Equipment

For more general design, and construction requirements that pertain to all pools see section 031.

- (1) **Walking Surfaces.** Owners must design and maintain pool walking surfaces:
 - (a) Four feet or more wide;
 - (b) With a surface area of sixteen square feet per bather at the facility with both a swimming pool and wading pool when swimming pool is fifteen hundred square feet or more.
- (2) **Wading Pool Floor and Wall Dimensional Design.** Owners must ensure pool dimensional designs for floors and walls provide for bather safety, and do not hinder water circulation, and water quality. Designs must include:
 - (a) All corners formed by the intersection of walls with floor being coved;
 - (b) Uniform pool floor slopes not exceeding one foot of drop in twelve feet of run.
- (3) **Wading Pool Entry and Exit.** Owners must provide one or more means of entry and exit on all pools including one of the following:
 - (a) Stairs must have:
 - (i) Nonslip tread finish;
 - (ii) Contrasting color stair tread edges;
 - (iii) Handrails having leading edges less than eighteen inches beyond and less than eight inches inside (horizontally) the vertical plane of the bottom riser;
 - (iv) Riser treads with a minimum unobstructed, horizontal, ten-inch tread depth and minimum two hundred forty-square inches of surface area;
 - (v) Riser height uniform and seven and one-half inches or less, except last step leading into pool may be less than uniform height.
 - (b) Shallow pool entry must be seven and one-half inches or less in depth;
 - (c) Ramp entry into the pool must have: meeting the following construction requirements:
 - (i) A handrail extending over the deck edge and extending to the bottom of the ramp for entering and leaving the wading pool;
 - (ii) Ramp edges protruding into the pool of contrasting color; and
 - (iii) Ramp slope not to exceed one foot in twelve feet.
- (4) **Turnover.** Owners must ensure pools turn over entire pool water volume in three hours or

less. Wading pools constructed after January 1, 2003 shall be on a separate treatment system. Intermingling between swimming pool and wading pool water will be prohibited.

- (5) **Pool Depth Markings.** Owners must provide easily visible depth markings:
- (a) Measured in feet or inches;
 - (b) Located on the coping or deck within eighteen inches of the water edge and positioned to be readable while standing on the deck facing the water;
 - (c) Made of slip resistant material;
 - (d) Placed at the maximum and minimum water depths;
 - (e) Spaced at intervals not exceeding twenty-five feet;
 - (f) Uniformly arranged on both sides and ends of the pool; and
 - (g) In numbers a minimum of four inches high.
- (6) **Bather Load.** Owners must provide each bather in a wading pool facility with seven square feet or more of water surface area at all times.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-130, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.
Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-130, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-080, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation .98.080, effective 3/11/60.)

WAC 246-260-081 Spray Pool Design, Construction, and Equipment

For more general design, and construction requirements that pertain to all pools see section 031.

- (1) **Walking Surface.** Owners must design and maintain walking surfaces four feet or more wide, extending around the entire perimeter of each spray pool.
- (2) **Pool Structure.** Owners must ensure each spray pool has:
- (a) Pool surfaces with nonslip finishes impervious to water;
 - (b) Uniform pool floor slopes not to exceed one foot in twelve feet;
 - (c) An approved potable water supply;
 - (d) Water drained to waste after use in the spray pool, unless recirculated with approved treatment; and,
 - (e) The entire volume of water circulated through an approved treatment device every thirty minutes or less, if water is recirculated.
- (3) **Inlets and Outlets.**
- (a) Owners must ensure spray nozzles at each spray pool are designed and maintained, if used, not to inflict physical damage to bathers.
 - (b) Owners must ensure outlet drains and recirculation drains are designed and maintained to provide sufficient capacity to prohibit water accumulation in each spray pool.
 - (c) Outlet drains in each spray pool must:
 - (i) Be located at the low point of the pool;
 - (ii) Have two or more main drains;
 - (iii) Have openings not allowing a sphere over one-half inch in diameter to pass;
 - (iv) Have drain grates that withstand forces of users; and
 - (v) Have drain grates removable only with specific tools.
 - (d) Outlet drains to each spray pool recirculating pump, must have:
 - (i) A total open grate area sized to prevent a suction hazard dangerous to users;

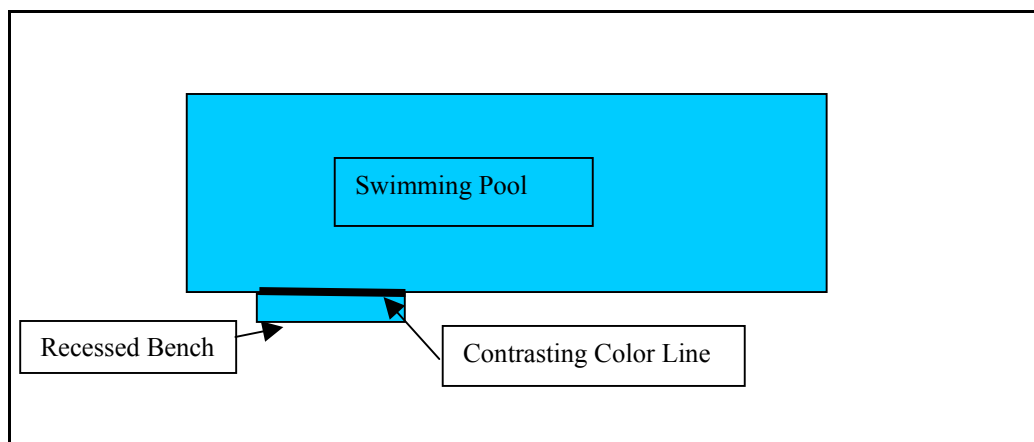
- (ii) A maximum flow of one and one-half feet per second, or net grate area of outlet four times or more the discharge pipe area; and,
- (iii) Manifolding a minimum of six feet apart where drains are piped directly to a pump.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-150, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.
Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-150, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-70-010 (Order 042), 248-98-090, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90, Regulation .98.090, effective 3/11/60.)

WAC 246-260-091 Specialty Design Features

- (1) Owners providing special features must meet the requirements of this section:
- (2) **Benches.** A single bench or seat that is recessed from the general wall of the swimming pool (four and one-half feet or less), provided the following conditions are met. (See figure 091.1)
 - (a) It must not be located in an area that is used for lap swimming;
 - (b) It must not exceed twenty percent of the length of the side it is located on or five percent of the perimeter of a free form pool;
 - (c) It must have a minimum two-inch or wider durable continuous line of a contrasting color on the top and side of the bench edge, so as to be readily visible to persons standing on the deck and persons swimming in the water;
 - (d) The side wall above the bench must have the two inches or more in height reading “Caution - Bench Below,” except when rim flow gutters are present;
 - (e) The area of the deck above the bench must have lettering four inches or more in height reading “No Diving” and “Caution- Bench Below.”

FIGURE 091.1
Bench



- (3) **Ledges.** In general use swimming pools, a single ledge may be built into the deep end of the pool, provided the following conditions are met:
- (a) The ledge construction conforms with FINA facilities Rules, 2001-2002, Swimming Pools, FR2.4.2;
 - (b) The ledge is in a contrasting color from the rest of the pool for easy visibility;
 - (c) The deck above the ledge has lettering in a contrasting color four inches or more in height reading “Caution – Ledge Below”.
- (4) **Waterfalls.** A waterfall feature may be built at pool facilities, provided the following conditions are met:
- (a) If located at, or adjacent to, shallow pool water levels (four and one half feet or less deep), it must be set back from the edge of the pool a distance specified in table 091.2;
 - (b) If located at, or adjacent to, deep pool water levels, it will be considered a diving platform and the adjacent pool area must conform to diving envelope design specified in subsection 041(3) of this chapter;
 - (c) Minimum walkway areas required in other sections of this chapter must be maintained around pools;
 - (d) Water in waterfalls that commingles with pool water must conform with water quality and treatment requirements specified in other sections of this chapter and any additional disinfection required by the department or local health officer to address anticipated increased demands and aerosolization of disinfectant;
 - (e) Flows must not create turbulence that might create a safety hazard or reduce visibility in the pool; and
 - (f) Waterfalls that flow from pool sidewalls must not exceed five percent of the total pool perimeter.

TABLE 091.2

Set-Back Requirements for Special Water Features in Pools at Shallow Swimming Pool Water Levels*

Height of Feature Above Pool Water Level	Type of Special Feature		
	Waterfall	Rockery	Planting
12 inches or less	Feature may spill directly to pool from side wall	Set back of 4 feet or more from pool edge; except at pools that are continuously lifeguarded. Five percent of deck perimeter may have feature provided up to pool edge.	Setback of 4 feet or more from pool edge.
Greater than 12 inches and less than 30 inches	Setback of 8 feet or more from pool edge.		
Greater than or equal to 30 inches	Setback of 15 feet or more from pool edge.		

*Guarded pool set backs must be established in a preconstruction design conference with the owner, designer and health department.

- (5) **Rockeries.** A decorative rock feature may be built at a swimming pool facility, provided the following conditions are met:
- (a) If located at, or adjacent to, shallow pool water levels (four and one half feet or less deep), it must be set back from the edge of the pool a distance specified in table 091.2
 - (b) If located at, or adjacent to, deep pool water levels, it will be considered a diving platform and the adjacent pool area must conform to diving envelope design specified in subsection 041(3) of this chapter;
 - (c) The design provides a non-slip surface without sharp or cutting edges for any areas that provide a potential foothold, stepping or standing access; and
 - (d) It slopes to drain water away from the pool.
- (6) **Play Toy Equipment.** Play toy equipment may be built at pool facilities provided the following conditions are met:
- (a) It must comply with the requirements of chapter 246-262 WAC;
 - (b) It must have design that conforms to ASTM standard F1292 including establishing fall zones;
 - (c) It must be easily cleanable; and
 - (d) It must be operated in accordance with a written plan of operation developed by the owner, addressing placement of the toy, protection from falls, protection from entrapment, protection from entanglement, protection of bathers from each other, and visibility of users to lifeguards.
- (7) **Special Use Pools.** Owners must submit proposals for pools designed for special use purposes (e.g. scuba training, kayaking, public promotions at sports fields, county fairs, and any special events using a portable pools) to the department or local health officer for review and approval. The department or local health officer has flexibility in applying portions of this chapter or additional requirements necessary to assure health and safety for users of such special use pools.
- (8) **Ballet Rails.**
- (a) Owners may install ballet-type rails on pools having uses limited to exercise and training;
 - (b) Owners may install ballet-type rail on general or limited use pools, provided:
 - (i) The rail is inset into the wall to preclude any obstructions in the pool;
 - (ii) The rail is removable for general purpose use of the pool, with covers to maintain a flush surface at any insert feature; or
 - (iii) The rail is located in pool water three feet or less deep.
- (9) **Sensory Deprivations Tanks (SDT) or Floatation Tanks.** Owners of sensory deprivation or floatation tanks must:
- (a) Restrict use to persons 18 years of age or older;
 - (b) Ensure that proper barrier protection is maintained at rooms to prevent direct access to unauthorized users;
 - (c) Maintain water quality and chemical conditions consistent with Section 111 of this chapter;
 - (d) Drain and replenish water in each tank consistent with spa pool requirements;
 - (e) Assure that an attendant oversee use of the tank on at least an hourly basis when clients are using the facility.

POOL OPERATION REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-260-101: Operating Permit

- (1) No person may operate a WRF without a current operating permit, issued by the local health officer.
- (2) To obtain an operating permit, owners of a WRF must provide the local health officer information showing the WRF is in compliance with this chapter.
- (3) Operating permits are:
 - (a) Valid for one year;
 - (b) Subject to annual renewal; and
 - (c) Nontransferable without written local health officer consent. (For purposes of this section, a change in management of a corporation, partnership, association, or other non-individual business entity creates a new person requiring either consent for a permit transfer or issuance of a new permit upon proper application.)

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-040, file 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-040, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91, Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-015, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-111 Water Quality Standards, Analysis, and Sample Collection

- (1) **Contamination.** Owners must maintain water free from harmful levels of disease producing organisms, toxic chemicals, or adverse physical conditions.
- (2) **Bacteriological Standards.** Owners must maintain WRF pool waters to meet the following standards of bacteriological quality:
 - (a) Heterotrophic plate counts not to exceed two hundred bacteria per milliliter in two consecutive tests;
 - (b) Total coliform not to exceed an average of one coliform per sample of one hundred milliliters in two consecutive tests when using the membrane filter test; and
 - (c) Total coliform not to exceed 2.2 bacteria per sample of 100 milliliters of water in two consecutive samples when using the most probable number (MPN) method.
- (3) **Disinfection.**
 - (a) Owners must maintain continuous and effective disinfection of WRF pool water at all times by using:
 - (i) Chlorine or bromine concentrations specified in Table 111.1 of this section;
 - (ii) Ozone applied in conformance with the department's "Interim guidelines governing the use of ozone and ozonators for water recreation facilities;"
 - (iii) Copper and silver concentrations applied in conformance with the department's "Interim guidelines governing the use of copper/silver disinfection processes for water recreation facilities" or,
 - (iv) An alternative disinfectant registered with EPA and WSDA.
 - (b) Any alternative disinfectant must be used in conformance with guidelines established

- by the department and NSF Standard 50.
- (c) Alternative sanitizers shall be evaluated using EPA document “Guide Standard and Protocol for Testing Microbiological Water Purifiers” by Campt and Cotruvo, EPA, April, 1986.
- (4) Chemical and Physical Quality.**
- (a) Owners must maintain physical and chemical conditions in WRF pool water within the ranges specified under Table 111.2 of this section;
 - (b) Owners must maintain cleanliness of WRF pool water by:
 - (i) Closing an affected WRF pool when contaminated with feces, blood, vomit, sewage, or other hazardous or unknown material until the area is clean, disinfected, and free of the hazardous material;
 - (ii) Daily removal of scum or floating material on the pool water surface;
 - (iii) Continuous removal of scum or floating material by overflow action of pool water with flotsam screened and filtered; and
 - (iv) Maintaining sanitary walking surfaces.
- (5) Laboratory Sampling and Testing.** Persons must ensure that water samples for laboratory analysis required by this chapter are:
- (a) Analyzed in accordance with Control Federation and AWWA, referred to as “standard methods” in this chapter;
 - (b) Collected in bottles approved by the local health officer. Collected and transported by procedures specified in the twentieth edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste/Water Analysis, published jointly by the APHA/Water Pollution
 - (c) Analyzed by laboratory procedures specified in “standard methods”;
 - (d) Analyzed at a laboratory approved by the local health officer; and,
 - (e) Submitted to a laboratory with adequate data for completing the analyses.
- (6) Field Testing.** Owners must have and use field testing equipment:
- (a) To measure disinfectant residuals, pH, alkalinity, cyanuric acid (when used in pool) and any other chemicals routinely used in the pool water;
 - (b) To detect chlorine gas at pools where compressed chlorine gas is used, using commercial strength (twenty-six degrees Baume) ammonia vapor; and
 - (c) With accuracy in the ranges of measurements specified in Table 111.3 of this section.
- (7) Chemicals In Pool.** Owners must ensure addition of chemicals or materials to WRF pool waters occurs only when the use is approved or recognized as acceptable by the department or local health officer.
- (8) Additional Tests.** Owners must perform any additional tests of WRF pool water or air required by the local health officer to assure public safety.

TABLE 111.1
Minimum and Maximum Levels of Disinfectant (PPM)*

SWIMMING POOL	Minimum	Maximum	SPA & WADING POOL **	Minimum	Maximum
Chlorine	1.5	6.0	Chlorine	3.0	10
Chlorine w/ cyanurate compound	2.0	6.0	Chlorine w/ cyanurate compound	3.5	10
Bromine	2.5	6.0	Bromine	4.0	10

* Chlorine is measured as free available chlorine residual.

** Recirculating spray pools or sensory deprivation tanks must meet spa & wading pool levels.

TABLE 111.2
Acceptable Ranges of Selected Chemical and Physical
Water Quality Constituents

CHEMICAL OR PHYSICAL CONSTITUENT	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
PH (Hydrogen ion)	7.2	8.0
Water Clarity (safety)	Main drain and pool bottom visible at all times	-
Turbidity (shielding microorganisms T.U.) *	-	.05
Cyanuric acid or its derivatives	0	90 PPM
Temperature **	-	104 F
Combined chlorine	-	50% of free chlorine
Ozone ***	-	.05****
Ionizers (Copper/Silver)	-	1.0/.05

NOTE:

* In peak periods, turbidity may increase to 1.0 TU provided turbidity returns to 0.5 T.U within a six-hour period following peak use. Turbidity is not a required routine analysis. The local health officer may require turbidity monitoring if special conditions warrant.

** A pool facility thermometer shall be provided when the water temperature exceeds 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

*** Atmospheric measurement

TABLE 111.3
Required Ranges of Accuracy and Incremental Readings for Field Test Kits

CHEMICAL TEST	MINIMUM TEST KIT RANGE	MINIMUM REQUIRED INCREMENTS ON KITS	MINIMUM ACCURACY
Free and total available chlorine and total bromine	0.5 – 10.0 PPM*	These increments are required to be on the test kit: 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 3, 5, 6, 10 PPM	$\pm 50\%$ of the difference of incremental readings
pH (hydrogen ion)	7.0 – 8.2	Maximum increments of 0.4, e.g. 7.0, 7.4, 7.8, 8.2, Preferred increments of 0.2, e.g. 7.0, 7.2.... 8.0, 8.2	$\pm 50\%$ of the difference of incremental readings
Cyanuric Acid	20 – 100 PPM	20PPM	$\pm 10\%$
Alkalinity	0 – 300 PPM	20 PPM	$\pm 10\%$
Temperature	60 – 110 degrees F	Must have increments of less than or equal to 2 degrees, e.g., 60, 62, 64 ... 108, 110	± 2 degrees F

* Operators who demonstrate the ability to accurately perform test kit dilutions may be allowed to use test kits with a chlorine range of 1.5 – 5.0 PPM, thereby using dilutions to read up to 10 PPM.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-070, filed 12/23/97, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-070, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-030, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation .98.030, effective 3/11/60.)

WAC 246-260-121 Monitoring, Reporting, and Record Keeping

(1) Reporting Death, Injury, and Illness. Owners must:

- (a) Provide the department or local health officer with information requested regarding the investigation of an injury or illness associated with the WRF; and,
- (b) Notify the department or local health officer of a drowning, near drowning, death, serious injury or serious illness associated with the WRF within forty-eight hours after becoming aware of such occurrence.

(2) Incidents. Owners must provide the department or local health officer with any information requested regarding the investigation of an incident creating a potential health or safety problem, for example, a chlorine gas leak.

(3) Monitoring and Record Keeping.

- (a) Owners must monitor the following water quality conditions of WRF pools and

maintain records for three years or more:

- (i) Residual disinfectant concentration level frequently enough, at least once every twenty-four hours, to determine that the residual is satisfactorily sustained to meet the requirements of subsection 111(3) of this chapter.
 - (ii) Hydrogen ion (pH) concentration frequently enough, at least once every twenty-four hours, to determine that the level is maintained in a range of 7.2 to 8.0.
 - (iii) Alkalinity at least weekly.
 - (iv) When pool water temperature is over ninety-five degrees F, water temperature frequently enough, at least once every twenty-four hours, to determine temperature that the temperature is maintained less than or equal to 104 degrees F.
 - (v) When cyanuric acid or one of its derivatives is used in a pool, cyanurate level testing at least weekly.
- (b) Owners must keep records for three years of:
- (i) Quantities of all chemicals added to pool water each day;
 - (ii) Treatment system flow rates, measured at least daily; and
 - (iii) Any incidents of gross pool water contamination, for example, from vomit, feces, or blood.
- (4) **Availability.** Owners must make records required by this section available for local health officer review upon request.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-080, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.
Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified s 246-260-080, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 246-98-035, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-131 Operation of Water Recreation Facilities

- (1) **Operation Plan.** Owners must ensure proper operation to protect the public health, safety, and water quality by establishing standard practices and developing an operations manual addressing each of the following:
- (a) Physical pool facility components and signage;
 - (b) Personnel;
 - (c) Users and spectators; including pool rules;
 - (d) Emergency response provisions;
 - (e) Diving during supervised swimming instruction into water depths recognized as adequate by the organization certifying the activity, such as ARC; and
 - (f) Environmental conditions.
- (2) **Physical Components.** Owners must provide routine checks of the physical components of each WRF to ensure:
- (a) Barrier protection, emergency equipment and structural facilities are properly maintained.
 - (b) Ponding of water on walking surfaces is prevented;
 - (c) Common articles provided for patrons, such as towels, bathing suits, bathing caps, etc are sanitized before reuse;
 - (d) Treatment occurs continuously at turnover rates required by this chapter twenty-four hours a day during periods of use;

- (e) Existing swimming or spa pools with single main drains; have a means approved by the department or local health officer to protect against entrapment and suction hazard; and
 - (f) Existing wading pools with single main drains have a means approved by the department or local health officer to protect against potential entrapment, suction and evisceration.
- (3) **Spa Cleaning.** Owners must routinely drain, clean and refill spa and recirculation spray pools at a minimum frequency specified by the following formula.

Spa* volume in gallons/3/average number of users per day = Number of days between draining, cleaning and refilling.

(4) **Signage for User Rules.**

- (a) Owners must provide and maintain signage specifying user rules and safety information required by this section in a conspicuous place in the pool area with easily readable lettering three-eighths of an inch or more high.
- (b) All swimming, spa and wading pool facilities must have signs stating pool rules;
 - (i) Prohibiting use by anyone running or participating in horseplay:
 - (A) When the pool is used by children twelve years of age or under a responsible adult eighteen years of age or older shall accompany the children and be at the pool or pool deck at all times the children use the facility;
 - (B) When used by person's seventeen years of age or under, a minimum of two people at the pool facility at all times the pool is in use;
 - (ii) Prohibiting use by anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
 - (iii) Prohibiting use by anyone with a communicable disease or anyone who has been ill with vomiting or diarrhea within the last two weeks;
 - (iv) Prohibiting anyone from bringing food or drink into the pool water;
 - (v) Prohibiting use by persons with a communicable disease or anyone who has been ill with vomiting or diarrhea within the last two weeks;
 - (vi) Requiring everyone to have for a cleansing shower before entering the pool;
 - (vii) Requiring everyone in diapers to wear tight-fitting rubber, vinyl or equivalent covers to preclude contamination of the pool and requiring diapers to be changed at designate diaper change areas;
 - (viii) Warning patrons that anyone refusing to obey the pool rules is subject to removal from the premises;
 - (ix) Directing patrons to the location of the nearest telephone and first aid kit for emergency use; and
 - (x) Directing patrons to the location of the nearest telephone and first aid kit for emergency use; and
 - (xi) Advising patrons that anyone with seizure, heart, or circulatory problems should swim with a buddy.
- (c) All swimming, spa, and wading pool facilities where lifeguards or attendants are not present must have signs stating additional pool rules that:
 - (i) When a child twelve years of age or less is using the pool, a responsible adult eighteen years of age or older must accompany the child and be at the pool or pool deck at all times the child uses the facility; and
 - (ii) When anyone seventeen years of age or less is using the pool, a minimum of two people must be at the pool facility.

- (d) All spa pool facilities must have signs stating additional pool rules:
 - (i) Cautioning that children under the age of six should not use a spa pool;
 - (ii) Cautioning that persons suffering from heart disease, diabetes, or high blood pressure should consult a physician before using a spa pool;
 - (iii) Cautioning women who are or might be pregnant to seek the advice of a physician regarding using a spa pool and to limit the length of time in the pool;
 - (iv) Cautioning everyone to limit the stay in the pool to fifteen minutes at any one session; and
 - (v) Posting the maximum bather capacity of each pool.
 - (e) All spray pool facilities must have signs stating pool rules as specified in subsections (a)(i), (a)(iii), (a)(v), and (a)(vi) of this section.
- (5) Required Personnel.**
- (a) Owners must ensure appropriate personnel specified in this subsection provide monitoring at pool facilities:
 - (b) General use swimming pool facilities must have lifeguards present at all times pools are in use; except
 - (i) When swim teams are facility users, the owner may allow substitution of a qualified coach properly credentialed by the sponsoring organization furnishing the swim coach, and
 - (ii) Owners may substitute persons with Master Scuba Diver Trainer or Master Scuba Diver Instructor certification through PADI or other department approved training in lieu of lifeguards for SCUBA training.
 - (iii) PADI certified scuba instructing staff must maintain the following conditions:
 - (A) Limit number of persons training to 8 persons per instructor
 - (B) Monitor persons being instructed to ensure 30-second rescue response can be provided for all persons instructed.
 - (C) Ensure all persons being instructed are monitored at all times while in the pool.
 - (c) Private club swimming pool facilities must have lifeguards present at all times persons sixteen years of age and younger are using the pool facilities, except:
 - (i) Attendants or shallow water lifeguards may supervise persons thirteen through sixteen years of age when these users are restricted to a pool depth less than or equal to four and one half feet and,
 - (ii) Attendants or shallow water lifeguards may supervise all person's sixteen years of age and under if the entire pool depth is less than four and one half feet.
 - (d) Where a spa or wading pool is in same enclosure as a swimming pool, all pools are subject to the most stringent monitoring personnel requirements applicable for any pool in the enclosure unless barriers in conformance with subsection 031(4) of this requirement restrict access between pools.
 - (e) The use of spas or wading pools not requiring lifeguards or attendants shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) When the pool is used by children twelve years of age or under, a responsible adult eighteen years of age or older shall accompany the children and be at the pool or pool deck at all times the children use the facility;
 - (ii) When used by persons seventeen years of age or under a minimum of two people must be at the pool facility at all times the pool is in use.
 - (iii) Subdivision (e)(i) and (ii) of this subsection must be posted and ongoing provision

- implemented to notify the responsible person of conditions for use of the facility.
- (f) Limited use pool facilities must have an equivalent or greater level of supervision as specified for private clubs in subsection (5)(c) of this section during any times when activities are provided that put the pools into the category of general use pools.
 - (g) All pool facilities shall have a water treatment operator.
- (6) Personnel Duties and Equipment.**
- (a) Owners must ensure personnel are present at each WRF who perform duties specified in this subsection.
 - (b) Lifeguards, shallow water lifeguards and swim coaches must guard assigned pool users and provide a rescue response time of thirty seconds or less.
 - (c) Attendants who oversee pool use, and restrict unauthorized use of pool, and enforce pool rules. If attendants are assigned to respond to rescue situations within thirty seconds the situations must be limited to elementary rescues including reaching assists. Attendants are not qualified to make swimming rescues.
 - (d) Owners must notify responsible persons on the conditions for facility use at pools not requiring lifeguards and for which no lifeguards or attendants are present. A responsible persons means a person having responsibility for overseeing users 17 years of age or under including, but not limited to a person:
 - (i) Renting an apartment, hotel, motel, RV camp, etc. or
 - (ii) Is an owner or member of a condominium, homeowner's association, mobile home park, or private club with a pool facility.
 - (e) Water treatment operators must assure the water treatment components of each WRF are functioning to protect health, safety and water quality.
 - (f) Owners must ensure that lifeguards, shallow water lifeguards, swim coaches, and attendants:
 - (i) Wearing a distinguishing suit/uniform, or emblem; and
 - (ii) Carry a whistle or equivalent signaling device.
- (7) Personnel Training.**
- (a) Owners must ensure that pool personnel required by subsection (5) of this section have skills necessary for their duties, obtained by training and certification specified in Table 131.1, or equivalent.
 - (b) Owners must keep a copy at the WRF of each currently valid certification required for pool personnel.
 - (c) Owners must ensure safety-monitoring personnel obtain continuing education needed to maintain lifeguarding skills and maintain valid certifications required by this subsection.
 - (d) Where SCUBA or kayaking lessons are conducted at a pool, owners must ensure that personnel monitoring these activities are trained to recognize special hazards associated with these activities.

TABLE 131.1
Personnel Training and Certifications

PERSONNEL	TRAINING RECOGNIZED	CERTIFYING AGENCIES*
Lifeguards	Lifeguarding, CPR, and First Aid.	ARC, YMCA, Lifesaving Society, E & A, ALTI
Shallow Water Lifeguards	Shallow water lifeguard or Bronze Cross Award, CPR, and First Aid	E& A, Lifesaving Society,
SCUBA instruction	Master Scuba Diver Trainer or Master Scuba Diver Instructor.	PADI
Swim Coaches	Swim Coaches Safety Training, CPR and First Aid.	ARC, YMCA.
Attendants	Aquatic Safety Assistant or Basic Water Rescue or Water Safety Plus and CPR	YMCA, ARC, E&A.
Water Treatment Operators	Specific Knowledge in Operation of Pool water chemistry, filtration, equipment and rules and regulations.	No certification required
Water Treatment Operators using Chlorine Gas	Specific knowledge and training for chlorine gas safety including safe use of gas bottles and chlorination units.	No certification required

* The department determines equivalent certifying organizations providing training.

(8) Emergency Response Plan.

(a) Owners must prepare and implement emergency response plans specified in this

subsection:

- (b) In pool facilities where lifeguards, shallow water lifeguards, or swimming coaches are required by subsections (5) and (6) of this section:
 - (i) Sufficient qualified personnel must be present and appropriately located to provide a rescue response time of thirty seconds or less for all pool users;
 - (ii) The number and qualifications of personnel present must be based on factors dealing with pool depth, line of sight, bather load, potential emergency procedures, and personnel rotation;
 - (iii) Emergency response drills must be held two or more times each year to test whether thirty-second response time can be met; and
 - (iv) A record of each response drill must be kept at the WRF for three or more years.
 - (c) In pool facilities where lifeguards are not present, in accordance with subsections (5)(c) and (5)(e) of this section, owners must adopt rules and notify users when first using facility and at least annually thereafter that conditions for use include:
 - (i) When a child twelve years of age or less is using the pool, a responsible adult eighteen years of age or older must accompany the child and be at the pool or pool deck at all times the child uses the facility; and
 - (ii) When anyone seventeen years of age or less is using the pool, a minimum of two people must be at the pool facility.
 - (d) Emergency equipment specified in sections 041, 051, and 071 of this chapter must be readily available during WRF operating hours.
 - (e) In facilities where chlorine gas is used:
 - (i) WRF personnel must conduct annual emergency drills; and
 - (ii) The location of accessible chlorine cylinder repair kits must be identified.
 - (f) Operators must ensure that lifeguards, shallow water lifeguards, and swim coaches receive ongoing training of emergency response skills.
- (9) **Environmental Conditions.** Owners must monitor various environmental conditions affecting the facility or potentially affecting the health and safety of users. Owners must close the WRF or take other appropriate action in response to adverse environmental factors, (e.g. electrical storms, fog, wind, and visibility problems) to ensure that the health and safety of users are protected.
- (10) **Closure.** Owners must close the facility when the facility presents an unhealthful, unsafe, or unsanitary condition. These conditions include lack of compliance with the water quality or an operation requirement in this section or in section 111 of this chapter.

WAC 246-260-141 Water Recreation Facility Pools Not In Operation

- (1) Owners of pool facilities that are not in operation must prevent access to the facility by means of locked barriers.
- (2) When a pool enclosure area has one pool open and another closed (e.g. seasonal pool, year around spa), the owner must maintain the pool that is closed:
 - (a) Posted with signage stating that the pool is closed; and
 - (b) Meeting water clarity standards of section 111 of this chapter, or
 - (c) Provided with a safety cover meeting ASTM standard F1346-91 and not allowing access to the pool.
- (3) All pool covers must be completely removed during periods when the pool is open for use.

- (4) When a pool that is closed develops an ice layer, the owner must install a safety cover meeting ASTM standard F1346-91 or the entire pool enclosure area must be closed.
- (5) If a pool facility is not in operation for more than twelve months, the owner must provide a safety cover over the pool meeting ASTM standard F1346-91 or the owner must back fill the pool.

WAC 246-260-151 Restrictions On Animals

Owners must prevent animal access to the WRF pool, except service animals in the deck area accompanying users or spectators requiring them.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-220, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-104, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-160 Bathing Beaches

Bathing beaches must be located, designed and operated so that they do not endanger the health or safety of bathers. Bathing beaches must not be located in waters that are polluted or subject to pollution that may constitute a health hazard to users.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 266B), 246-260-200, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-200, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (order 042), 248-98-100, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90; Regulation .98.100, effective 3/11/60.)

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

WAC 246-260-171 General Administration

- (1) The department and local health officer for each local health jurisdiction must develop an interagency agreement listing the responsibilities of each agency for administering the issuance of WRF construction permits required by this chapter.
- (2) The local health officer for each local health jurisdiction must develop a plan for the issuance of operation permits and for routine WRF surveillance.

WAC 246-260-181 Surveillance

Owners and operators must allow the department and local health officer to perform on-site WRF inspections or conduct other surveillance activities considered necessary by the enforcing agency to ensure compliance with this chapter and chapter 70.90 RCW.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.902.120. 92-02-020 9Order 226B), 246-260-060, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.

Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-060, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-070-010 (Order 042, 248-98-025, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-191 Technical Advisory Committee

- (1) The department must appoint a technical advisory committee to assist in the following:
 - (a) Reviewing and drafting proposed rules; and
 - (b) Developing guidelines for use of new products, equipment, procedures, and periodic program review.
- (2) The technical advisory committee must have meetings whenever the department determines necessary.
- (3) The WRF technical advisory committee membership must include representation from the following:
 - (a) General use pool facility owners;
 - (b) Limited use pool facility owners;
 - (c) NSPI;
 - (d) WRPA;
 - (e) Engineer or architect design consultants;
 - (f) Eastern and western Washington local environmental health jurisdictions;
 - (g) The department; and
 - (h) Recreational water contact facility owners [as appropriate].
- (4) The technical advisory committee may appoint subcommittees, as the committee determines appropriate to address specific issues.
- (5) The department must maintain minutes of meetings.

WAC 246-260-201 Variance

- (1) The department or local health officer may allow variances from this chapter or portions thereof provided:
 - (a) Data and/or research provides sufficient evidence to the satisfaction of the department or local health officer that the water recreation facility, or considered components, adequately protects public health and safety, as well as water quality; and
 - (b) The variance is consistent with the intent of this chapter.
- (2) The department and each local health officer must provide the board a written summary of variances granted the previous year. This summary must be submitted by January 31 of the following year or any time the board requests.
- (3) The board may, at its discretion, require variance requests be submitted to it for review and approval.

WAC 246-260-211 Enforcement

- (1) The department or local health officer may enforce this chapter by one or more of the following actions:
 - (a) Conducting an informal administrative conference to explore facts and resolve problems, convened at the request of the department, local health officer, or owner;
 - (b) Issuing an order directing the WRF owner, operator, or the person responsible to cease violating this chapter or chapter 70.90 RCW;
 - (c) Requiring the WRF owner or authorized representative to participate in training to improve basic skills for operating pools;
 - (d) Assessing a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars per violation per day; and
 - (e) Denying, suspending, or revoking a WRF construction or operating permits.
- (2) Orders authorized under this section may include, but are not limited to, requirements to:
 - (a) Take corrective measures, which may include a schedule; necessary to gain compliance with this chapter and chapter 70.90 RCW; and
 - (b) Stop work or refrain from using a WRF or any portion of a WRF and approvals required by statute or rules are obtained.
- (3) An order issued under this section must:
 - (a) Be in writing;
 - (b) Name the facility and the person or persons to whom the order is directed;
 - (c) Briefly describe each action or inaction constituting a violation of this chapter or chapter 70.90 RCW;
 - (d) Specify any required corrective action, if applicable;
 - (e) Provide notice, as appropriate, that continued or repeated violation may subject the violator to the penalties specified in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) Continued or repeated violation of the provisions of this chapter or chapter 70.90 RCW may subject the violator to:
 - (a) Civil penalties of up to five hundred dollars;
 - (b) Denial, suspension or revocation of the facility's construction or operating permit; or
 - (c) Referral to the county prosecutor or attorney general's office.
- (5) The local health officer may deny an application or reapplication for a WRF operating permit and may revoke or suspend a WRF operating permit of any person who:
 - (a) Previously had an operating permit suspended or revoked or had an operating permit application denied for reason;
 - (b) Failed or refused to comply with any provisions of this chapter, chapter 70.90 RCW, or any other statutory provision or rule regulating the WRF construction or operation; or
 - (c) Obtained or attempted to obtain an operating permit or any other required certificate of approval applicable to the WRF by fraudulent means or misrepresentation.
- (6) The local health officer may summarily suspend a WRF operating permit, without a prior hearing if the local health officer finds that the WRF presents an imminent hazard to public health or safety and incorporates a finding to that effect in an order:

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260-250, filmed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.
Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.0560. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-250, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.90.120. 90-70-010 (Order 042), 248-98-130, filed 33/12/90,

effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-221 Hearings

A person aggrieved by the department's or local health officer's denial, suspension, or revocation of a WRF permit or levy of a civil penalty may request an administrative hearing. A hearing requested to contest a local health officer's action is governed by the local health jurisdiction's rules for hearings.

A hearing requested to contest a department action is governed by RCW 43.70.095.

The procedure for an adjudicative proceeding is in chapter 246-08 WAC.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 92-02-02-020 (Order 226B), 246-260, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-206-260, filed 12/7/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07.010 order 042), 248-98-135, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-998 Severability

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 43.20.050. 91-02-051 (Order 124B), recodified as 246-260-998, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.90.120. 90-07-010 (Order 042), 248-98-998, filed 3/12/90, effective 4/12/90.)

WAC 246-260-9901 FEES

(1) **CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.** The department may charge the following fees for carrying out its duties under WAC 246-260-020:

- (a) \$75 per hour for review of plans for a new WRF; and
- (b) \$50 per hour for review of plans for alteration, renovation, or modification to an existing WRF.